

ABSTRACT

Methods for the preparation of storage-stable fatty acid calcium salt products by forming a reactive admixture of (a) an unsaturated fatty acid glyceride feedstock; and (b) from about 10% to about 30% of the total admixture weight of calcium hydroxide; and heating the admixture to a temperature at which the fatty acid glycerides saponify to form fatty acid calcium salts in an atmosphere in which the partial pressure of oxygen has been reduced by an amount effective to provide an improvement in storage stability. Storage stable calcium salts of unsaturated fatty acids prepared by the inventive method are also disclosed.